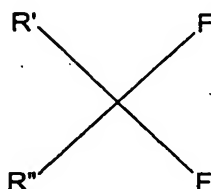


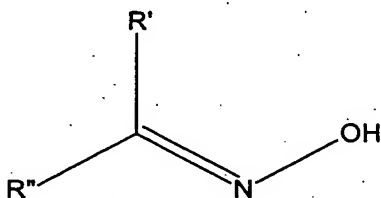
### Claims

1. Process for the preparation of a geminal difluoroalkane of the general formula (I),



(I)

wherein, independently from each other, R' and R'' represent substituted alkyl-, aryl- or aralkyl or may be combined by the formation of a cyclic system, characterized in that an oxime of the general formula (II)

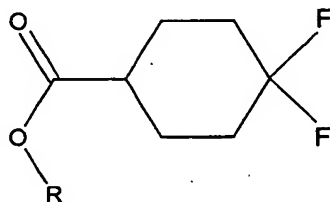


(II)

whereas R' and R'' are defined as aforesaid, is converted using a nitrite and a complex consisting of hydrogen fluoride and an organic base.

2. Process according to claim 1, characterized in that R' and R'' represent C<sub>1</sub> - C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl or aryl or, in combination with the carbon atom they are bound to, C<sub>3</sub> - C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl.
3. Process according to claim 2, characterized in that R' and R'' form a cyclohexane ring in combination with the carbon atom they are bound to.

4. Process according to claim 3, characterized in that the difluoroalkane of the general formula (I) is a difluorocyclohexane-carboxylic acid ester of the general formula (I'),



(I')

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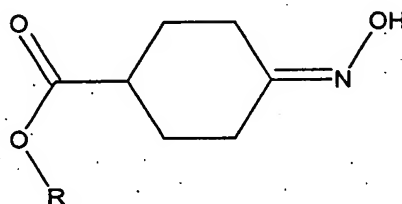
wherein R represents a hydrogen atom or C<sub>1</sub> - C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl.

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5. Process according to claim 4, characterized in that the difluoroalkane of the general formula (I') is 4,4-difluorocyclohexane-carboxylic acid ethyl ester.
6. Process according to claim 4, characterized in that the difluoroalkane is 4,4-difluorocyclohexane-carboxylic acid.
7. Difluorocyclohexane-carboxylic acid ester of the general formula (I') according to claim 4, wherein R represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub> - C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl residue.
8. Compound according to claim 7, namely 4,4-difluorocyclohexane-carboxylic acid.

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9. Compound according to the general formula (II')



(II')

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wherein R represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub> - C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl residue.

10. Use of 4,4-difluorocyclohexane-carboxylic acid as an intermediate in the manufacture of pharmaceutical products.

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